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Economic and Social Council

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Commission on Sustainable Development
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Other matters

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007

Note by the Secretary-General**

1. The Commission on Sustainable Development has before it for its consideration the present note by the Secretary-General on the preparation of the strategic framework for the period 2006-2007. In this connection, attention is drawn to General Assembly resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, on a trial basis, for submission to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, a strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007, to replace the current four-year medium-term plan, comprising: part one: plan outline; and part two: a biennial programme plan.

2. The attention of the Commission is drawn to rule 104.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8):

> "The Secretary-General shall take appropriate measures to submit proposals to the sectoral, functional and regional bodies, to enable them to review the relevant portions of the medium-term plan or its revisions with a view to facilitating their consideration by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the General Assembly."

3. The Commission is invited to review the proposed biennial programme plan for the subprogramme on sustainable development contained in the annex to the present note and to provide its comments to the Secretary-General. The proposed biennial programme plan, modified as appropriate, will be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-fourth session. Its recommendations will be transmitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session. Also included in the annex are the legislative mandates for the subprogramme.

* E/CN.17/2004/1.
** Submission of the note was delayed to allow interdepartmental consultation.

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4. Although the General Assembly decided, in paragraph 9 of resolution 58/269, that the programme narratives of the programme budget fascicles should be identical to those in the biennial programme plan, it is recognized that the outcome of the ten-year review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Small Island Developing States, which is to be undertaken at the International Meeting in Mauritius, from 30 August to 3 September 2004, may give rise to revisions in the work programme to be implemented under the subprogramme in 2006-2007. In accordance with paragraph 13 of resolution 58/269, the Committee for Programme and Coordination will review, during the budget year, the programmatic aspects of new and/or revised mandates approved by the Assembly subsequent to the adoption of the biennial programme plan, as well as any differences that may arise between the biennial programme plan and the programmatic aspects of the proposed programme budget.

Annex

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

Subprogramme 7.4
Sustainable development

Objective of the Organization: To advance sustainable development at all levels through the effective and coordinated implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and other internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences relevant to the subprogramme.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective review and agreement on the implementation of sustainable development actions facilitated in relevant intergovernmental processes, especially the Commission on Sustainable Development, with regard to the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation	(a) (i) An increase in the number of Member States that have taken action to meet the goals and targets of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation as reported to the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly (ii) An increased percentage of Member States expressing satisfaction with the quality of substantive support provided to the Commission on Sustainable Development and other United Nations intergovernmental processes in the area of sustainable development
(b) Enhanced capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve their water and energy sectors	(b) (i) Number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition expressing satisfaction with the usefulness of the advisory services and/or technical cooperation projects and capacity-building support provided and/or implemented under the subprogramme (ii) Number of measures taken to improve the water and energy sectors of developing countries
(c) Enhanced capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to develop and implement national sustainable	(c) (i) Number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition expressing satisfaction with the

development strategies, information systems and databases for sustainable development	usefulness of the advisory services and/or technical cooperation projects and capacity-building support provided and/or implemented under the subprogramme (ii) Number of national experts trained and national institutions advised, resulting in enhanced knowledge and improved skills
(d) Increased involvement of "major groups" in activities related to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development	(d) Number of activities involving "major groups" that have contributed to the work of the Commission
(e) Enhanced access to information on sustainable development and better understanding of sustainable development issues among the various governmental and non-governmental actors	(e) Number of visits to and downloads from the web site of the Division for Sustainable Development

Strategy

The Division for Sustainable Development is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Promoting and supporting effective, coherent and coordinated implementation of the sustainable development agenda of the United Nations, including Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcomes of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, at the national, regional and global levels, with an emphasis on greater integration of social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development;

(b) Providing substantive and effective support, including policy development and analysis, to intergovernmental processes, in particular to the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(c) Providing technical and policy advisory services, at the request of Member States, to promote enhanced capacity of developing countries, countries with economies in transition as well as regions in relation to the water and energy sectors and to national sustainable development strategies, information, monitoring and reporting systems;

(d) Strengthening cooperation with major groups and identifying opportunities for their further engagement in the work of the United Nations in the area of sustainable development;

(e) Undertaking in-depth analysis and evaluation of trends in implementation of sustainable development, including lessons learned, best practices and new challenges, and cross-sectoral analysis of sustainable development in the economic and natural resources sectors;

(f) Maintaining and improving a transparent, user-friendly and easily accessible web site, including database systems for information on sustainable development;

(g) Providing information and summary reports on partnerships for sustainable development to the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
47/191	Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
S-19/2	Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21
S/22/2	Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
55/279	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (*all subprogrammes*)
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
57/262	Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
57/270 B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
58/210	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme, 1996-2005
58/213	Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
58/217	International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
58/218	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
58/220	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries
58/230	Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development
58/269	Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

2003/6	The role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits
2003/61	Future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

2002/1 **Agreed conclusions on strengthening further the Economic and Social Council, building on its recent achievements, to help it fulfil the role assigned to it in the Charter of the United Nations as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration**